In the Claims

The pending claims are claims 10 to 16, inclusive, and have been amended as follows:

Claims 1-9 Cancelled

Claim 10 (currently amended) A method of absorbing liquid comprising the steps of:

a) placing a composite adjacent to a liquid source, wherein said composite comprises

a first substrate and a bonded mixture, said bonded mixture comprising a mixture of binder particles and super-absorbent particles which have no three-dimensional array of elongated channels when present as a bonded mixture with said binder particles and prior to contact with said liquid source, super-absorbent polymer particles capable of forming a three-dimensional array of elongated channels after being formed into a bonded mixture with said binder and after contact with said liquid source, and a three-dimensional array of elongated channels within said composite of binder and super-absorbent particles which is formed after contact with a liquid from said liquid source, wherein said binder particles are on average smaller than said super-absorbent polymer particles, and wherein at least some of said binder particles coalesce at least some of said bonded mixture to said substrate,

b) acquiring the liquid into the composite along the three-dimensional array of elongated channels; and

c) absorbing the liquid by means of at least some of said bonded mixture.

Claim 11 (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein at least some of said bonded mixture collects liquid from said liquid source within said three- dimensional array, and the collected liquid In said array is absorbed by at least some of said bonded mixture.

Claim 12 (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said composite further comprises a second substrate, and said bonded mixture is between said first substrate and said second substrate, and wherein at least some of said binder particles coalesce at least some of said bonded mixture to said second substrate.

Claim 13 (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said bonded mixture has a dry thickness of less than about 2 millimeters.

Claim 14 (original) The method of claim 12, wherein said bonded mixture has a dry thickness of less than about 2 millimeters.

Claim 15 (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising a liquid permeable acquisition layer in liquid communication with said bonded mixture.

Claim 16 (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising a liquid

permeable acquisition layer in liquid communication with said bonded mixture.

Claims 17-25 Cancelled